

A D V E N T U R E S

O F

A L O N S O:

C O N T A I N I N G

Some STRIKING ANECDOTES of the
present PRIME MINISTER of POR-
TUGAL.

V O L. I.

L O N D O N:

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M,DCC,LXXV.





ADVENTURES

O F

A L O N S O.

C H A P. I.

ALVARES was a merchant in one of the principal towns in Portugal, situated upon the sea coast; and though the prejudices of the people of that country unhappily incline them to look with contempt on those who embrace that sphere of life, yet the riches which he had acquired, his benevolence and charities, the goodness of his heart, and

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withal,

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withal, a great simplicity of manners, had not only engaged the good-will and affections, but the general respect of the province he lived in.

ALVARES had an only son whom he was determined to bring up to business in spite of the entreaties of his mother, whose vanity led her to endeavour to have brought up to the law : but the old man was inflexible ; he well knew, that to arrive at preferment in his country, the slippery road his son would have to tread, and that the mazes and duplicity of an arbitrary court, the uncertainty of favour, and the slavish dependance upon a minister, would not only render his fortune precarious ; but must, as he advanced in power, fetter those principles

ples of justice and equity, which in every character, but more especially in such as ought to be considered as the arbiters of the rights of their fellow-creatures, should be held sacred and inviolate. Besides, Alvares had three daughters, whom he would be the better able to settle advantageously in life, by bringing up his son as a merchant: for, as his business alone, if managed with good sense and attention, was equal to a rich inheritance, he would have it more in his power to provide respectable husbands for his daughters, by the fortunes he would be enabled to give them.

FORMERLY the common method of providing for young women of family of reputable parents, was by putting

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them

them into nunneries, where they were maintained at an easy expence; but since the law made by the present minister, which in some measure compensates for his political errors and oppressions, prohibiting the entrance of either sex into convents, without the express leave of the king, rendered that impossible; he was obliged to adopt some other mode of provision; and none appeared to him more eligible than the spirit of that law which had in view the increase of inhabitants.

ALVARES's connections in trade were mostly with the English; and as he found that language essentially requisite in his business, he resolved to send his son into that country: besides, he was
persuaded

persuaded that education there was far superior to what was to be met with in Portugal, and he determined to spare no expence in that article. He judged, too, that by living some time with a people, whose grandeur and opulence depended chiefly upon their commerce, he would acquire higher and juster notions of what he was intended for, and would be the means of erasing from his mind the unfavourable impressions of his mother.

ALONSO (for that was the young man's name), having attained his fifteenth year, Alvares thought it time to put his designs into execution; for he was apprehensive, that if he sent him at an earlier age, he would lose that *amor patria* so natural to mankind; he there-

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fore took an opportunity one morning of entering upon the subject with his wife, whose expostulations he knew would not be wanting upon this occasion, and that every engine would be put in force to frustrate his plan. Antonia, (so she was called) no less surprised than mortified, used every endeavour and intreaty to dissuade her husband from his resolution; but as neither her prayers nor arguments could prevail, she had recourse to her confessor and the clergy, whom she easily engaged on her side, by representing the danger of her son's happiness in a future state, by being sent among a nation of heretics.

HOWEVER, their reasons were as fruitless as those of Antonia's. Alvares's knowledge

knowledge of the world, and his acquaintance and connection with people of most nations, had opened and unchained his mind from the narrow prejudices of his countrymen: all, therefore, that they could obtain, was to get his promise, that Alonso should be placed in such hands as would watch over his religious tenets, and inculcate those mysteries which all good Catholics consider as essential to their salvation.

THIS point being settled, he resolved that his son should take his passage in a vessel that was then going for London. Having, therefore, equipped him for the voyage, and the ship being ready to sail, Alonso, after the tender embraces of his mother and his family,

was accompanied on board by his father.

It was then that the steadiness and inflexibility of Alvares was put to the severest trial: for his affections were strong, and he loved Alonzo. "My son, said he, you must be sensible how much I consider this voyage as advantageous to your future welfare, by suffering you to part from me; and I hope that your conduct will justify the measures I have taken for your happiness. You are going into a distant country, but you will meet with many of your father's friends. I have recommended you to their kindness and care, but I hope your own merit will be the best recommendation to their favour. You know the plan I have

have formed for you; its completion depends much upon yourself. Apply, therefore, with diligence and earnestness to your studies, and convince your parents of your duty and affection, by the shortness of your absence; for though I would by no means have your education and the acquirement of knowledge restricted as to time, yet its duration must depend much upon the use you make of it."----The young man wept----Alvares embraced him, and they parted.

CHAP.

C H A P. II.

ALVARES had but just left the ship, when a fine breeze springing up, she immediately set sail.---The novelty of the scene and the sea-sickness, soon disengaged the mind of Alonso from the distress that the separation from his parents had occasioned.---In three weeks he arrived at London. The captain, to whose care he was intrusted, took the first opportunity of accompanying him to the correspondent of Alvares, whose house he was to consider as his home.

ALONSO

ALONSO was received with all the kindness that was due from a man whose friendship for his father was cemented by a long and advantageous connection in trade. After some weeks' recreation and amusement, Mr. Stephenson, (for that was the gentleman's name) thought it proper to put Alvares's plan into execution. Alonso was therefore sent to an eminent boarding-school in the vicinity of the capital, accompanied with a private tutor of the Roman Catholic religion; a man, however, of a liberal and enlarged mind, and well adapted to the employment he was engaged for.

WE will pass over the history of this part of his life as too juvenile to be interesting---suffice it to say, that, as he
was

was a youth of strong natural sense, and of a quick apprehension---of an engaging aspect and genteel deportment, he made a rapid progress in the attainment of those branches of learning and education which are considered either as beneficial or graceful.---It may not perhaps be amiss to remark, that of all the different studies which he was employed in, none engaged his attention so much as History and Geography.

ALONSO had now completed his twentieth year; and as Alvares was persuaded, from the flattering accounts he so often received of his accomplishments, that his residence in England had answered the ends he proposed, he thought it was time to send for him home;

home;---however, in this he consulted his friend, and was determined to be guided by his advice. Mr. Stephenson told him, that though he had finished his academic education, he thought it would be very proper to let him remain in his house for six or seven months with his tutor, in order to render his address easy in the commerce of the world, and to give him some knowledge of mankind.

ALVARES readily subscribed to this opinion, and Alonso was happy in partaking of the pleasures of society for the remainder of his stay.

At the expiration of that time, he embarked for Portugal: he would willingly have continued some months longer, and

wrote

wrote to his father for that purpose, but the declining health of his mother---her anxiety to see him, and the necessity Alvares thought there was to introduce him into business, and the knowledge of his affairs in case of any accident to himself, were reasons that rendered it imprudent to comply with his request.

It is needless to mention the joy the old man and Antonia felt on the arrival of their son---every branch of his parentage joined in their congratulations, and Alonso was for some days almost smothered with embraces.

ALVARES the more he examined and attended to his son, the more he was pleased---and excelled in the education
he

he had given him---Even Antonia joined in the applause of his measures ; for though she was not a woman to form a right judgment of other accomplishments, she could not but allow that his appearance surpassed her most sanguine expectations-----however, not many months elapsed, before an event fell out that at once destroyed all their happiness.

AMONG the ladies who visited Antonia and her daughters, was Donna Eugenia de Miranda, a person of great beauty in the town of ----- . Alonso became deeply enamoured of her ; and as she was the intimate and friend of his eldest sister, he had frequent opportunities of seeing and entertaining her with his passion, notwithstanding the jealousy and watchfulness

ness of her husband; for Donna Eugenia was married; but this was one of those ill-assorted matches, where youth and beauty were sacrificed to riches and old age---Don Pedro her husband was upwards of threescore.

THE advantages of Alonso's person has been already mentioned; and as the education he had received gave him great superiority over the youth of his own country, he did not find it an arduous task, in a climate where the passions between the two sexes are so easily inflamed, to inspire Eugenia with the kindest sentiments towards him.---Business now was no longer regarded; and the schemes the good Alvares had formed for the happiness of his son, gave way to
the

the charms and allurements of Eugenia. However, that he might have a more unbounded enjoyment allowed of than stolen interviews, he determined to endeavour to persuade her to forsake Don Pedro, and fly with him into Spain.

THE affections of Eugenia were too deeply engaged to withstand his entreaties; it was therefore agreed that they should go privately to Lisbon, and that Eugenia should there be equipped in men's apparel, and from thence travel as Alonso's brother. In the mean time, as it was necessary to look a little towards futurity, Alonso had the address to raise a considerable sum of money upon his father's credit:---Eugenia too was equally provident, and did not forget her jewels and trinkets of value.

C H A P. III.

OUR two lovers got undiscovered to Lisbon, where they remained no longer than was necessary to complete Eugenia for her intended disguise.

As soon as that was accomplished, Alonso ordered mules to be hired in the Province of Alemtejo, and taking the advantage of a fine evening, crossed the Tagus with his mistress, and immediately proceeded on their journey through bye roads to Badajoz, the first frontier town in Spain, where to their great joy they arrived without being known.

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It was now for the first time they thought themselves secure in each other's embraces; for what with the restless jealousy of an incensed husband, and the fond anxiety of indulgent parents, they were certain no expence or diligence would be wanting to find them out.--- Being therefore free from apprehension, and their purses well furnished with money, they gave the reins to Pleasure; for their passions were too violent to let them moralize on their ruinous conduct.

AFTER solacing themselves some days in Badajoz, they set out for Madrid.--- The badness of the roads---the uneasiness of the calashes---the tiresome ding-dong pace of the mules, with the continued
C 2 tinkling

tinkling of their bells, and above all, the forlorn accommodation of their inns, render travelling in Spain fit only for Lovers or Philosophers; so that our adventurers arrived at the capital without the usual complaints of the journey.--- Their first step was to provide themselves with a proper apartment, and then to be fitted with such cloaths as were most in fashion, that they might appear in public without being particularised as strangers---Eugenia, however, in spite of her sword, and other manly accoutrements, did not yet find herself mistress of that confidence so necessary in her situation to prevent a suspicion of her sex.

THEY

THEY had not been long in Madrid before the King signified his intentions of reviewing the regiment of horse-guards, and appointed a day for that purpose. As Alonso had always intelligence of the amusements of the town, he was resolved not to let slip an opportunity of being present at a sight which seldom fails to engage the general attention ; accordingly the two cavaliers were punctual to the hour of rendezvous.

ALONSO was not a military man, and his companion less so ; it is therefore not surprising if they took but little notice of the exercise or evolutions : besides their minds were too much engrossed with the pageantry of the court, and of the spectators themselves, to attend to

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any thing besides---but the regiment being ordered to make a charge, they halted at the end of their career with their front close to where they stood.---What was the horror and confusion of Eugenia, when the first object she cast her eyes upon, was her husband Don Pedro observing her at the head of his squadron, with a wild and distracted look!---his countenance threatened vengeance alternately on both---Eugenia was so agitated that she was ready to sink down; and Alonso was struck with such amazement and wonder, that he had hardly the power of assisting her: fortunately for both, the regiment was ordered to go through some other manœuvre, which removed from their sight the most terrifying object they had ever yet beheld;

so

so that gathering together their scattered spirits, they hurried through the crowd, and made the best of their way to their lodgings.

As soon as they got home they bundled up in haste what was valuable, and changing their cloaths, bade an immediate adieu to Madrid.---They travelled the remaining part of that day on foot; and the better to elude the search of Don Pedro, they once more changed their apparel with two common labouring men, whom they observed at some distance from the road, at work in a vineyard.

HAVING got to a village about four leagues from Madrid, towards the dusk

of the evening, and worn out with fatigue from the agitation of mind and the distance they had walked, they resolved to go no further that night.--- They had now leisure to reflect upon the strange adventure which had befallen them, and to form some plan that might secure them from falling into the hands of Don Pedro.---It was now upwards of a month since they had left -----, their native place; and Alonso, desirous of keeping their abode a secret, had kept up no correspondence with his friends--- they were therefore lost in conjectures how Don Pedro came to be at the head of a squadron in the Spanish guards, when it was but so lately they had left him as a captain of cavalry in Portugal.

AFTER

AFTER ruminating on what was best to be done in their present circumstances, it was thought most adviseable to get into France as soon as possible. For this purpose, early in the morning, Alonso purchased a small ordinary mule, for he was afraid that a good one might appear as too great a contrast with the garb they were in, and alarm the suspicions of their hosts. Having likewise bought a pair of alforjes *, and a borracho †, which they filled with wine and provisions, they set out on their journey, cotoying the high road to Bayonne. Alonso walked by the side of Eugenia, who rode on the little mule, and at night they took up their lodgings in a small town,

* A pair of cantines made of coarse wool.

† A leather skin to hold wine.

where

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where he thought they might safely make a purchase of another beast and a change of apparel. In this manner they travelled towards France, taking up their quarters constantly at some distance from the high-way, in order to be secure from pursuit.

At the end of twelve days they found themselves at the foot of the Pyrenees, and in three more, they had the happiness to arrive at St. Jean de Lus.

C H A P.

C H A P. IV.

OUR travellers at once found themselves in safety and in paradise, compared to the country they had left. Whoever has made that journey, will allow the justness of the comparison.

THIS change of scene happened very opportunely to Alonso; for a gloomy thought would now and then steal across his breast, and imbitter the gaiety of his disposition. The frowns of a father, whose care and indulgence he had so ill requited; the anxious tenderness of a mother, almost overcome with disease,
and

and the affections of his sisters whom he fondly loved, would stare him at times in the face.---These gloomy reflections, the newness of the objects, and the vivacity of the people they had got amongst, soon dispelled from his mind.---As for Eugenia, secure in the attachment of Alonso, she never once regretted the change she had made.

THEY found so pleasant a contrast between French Hotels and Spanish Posadas, that they were in no hurry to leave St. Jean de Lus ;---however, after some days repose, and repairing their wardrobe with such dresses as were proper for travelling in, according to the fashions of France, Alonso fixed upon Marseilles as their place of abode.---He was inclined to
take

take up his residence in that city, in preference to any other in that part of the kingdom from its size and populousness, from its great trade to most parts of the world, and from the facility with which he could convey himself to any other country.

ACCORDINGLY he hired a chaise for the journey, and taking in their rout such places as he thought were worth seeing, or would afford them entertainment, they arrived in safety at Marfeilles.---They had not been long there, before they found their finances nearly exhausted; recourse was therefore to be had to Eugenia's jewels, which were sold for a sum of money, which was not only sufficient for their present exigencies, but with tolerable

rable management would even have allowed them to live sometime with dissipation.---But œconomy had but a small share in Alonso's character; and their expences made such hasty strides to distress, that they were soon reduced to the *pauvé*; ---like too many young travellers, they fell a prey to those harpies, who in all large towns take advantage of the extravagance of youth.

IN this dilemma, what was to be done? ---Various schemes were thought on; and circumstanced as they were, it was necessary to fix upon some one or other before they were absolutely reduced to want.

As Alonso was one day ruminating in this mood on the quay of Marseilles, he
heard

heard by chance of a ship that was bound for Cadiz.---It immediately occurred to him that he had an old school-fellow who had been sent over to England upon much the same plan as he had been by Alvares, and was now settled in one of the most substantial houses of business in that city.

ALONSO had always lived in the strictest amity with Pacheco, (for that was his name), and he did not doubt but when he made known to him his distress, that he would not only be relieved, but that some method would be found out which, with the exertion of his abilities, would secure them from future want.

OF the different projects that run at that time in his head, none appeared to him so advantageous as to get out to the Spanish colonies in America, which he was persuaded from the influence of Pacheco he would accomplish: besides, his curiosity for travelling would be gratified, and to return home in his present circumstances was not to be thought of.

FULL of his intended schemes, and elevated with the thoughts of being able to extricate himself from his present difficulties, he hastened home to Eugenia --- He found her pensive and melancholly, but the unusual cheerfulness of his countenance bespeaking some lucky change in their affairs, her features immediately took another turn.

ALONSO

ALONSO communicated to her his project, and expatiated with so much confidence on its success, that they were soon of one mind.

THE first thing therefore to be done, was to find out the Captain of the vessel, and agree for their passage.---This point being settled, and the ship being ready to sail, they turned every thing they could spare into money, and went immediately on board.

EUGENIA was by this time so accustomed to the disguise she had assumed, that she was no ways apprehensive of a discovery of her sex in the common intercourse of society.---But the scene was now changed, and they were going to a

country where they would be within the reach of Don Pedro.---Their precautions, however, succeeded---Eugenia kept constantly in bed; and the weather was so favourable during the voyage, that she hardly paid the common tribute to the sea. In five days they arrived at Cadiz.

AFTER satisfying the Captain, they took advantage of the first boat to carry them ashore, and retired to a posada in the most sequestered part of the town.---As soon as they had taken some refreshment, Alonso desired the landlord to recommend them to such an apartment as suited their circumstances to hire; for the inns in Spain, though the worst, are notwithstanding the dearest in Europe---
besides

besides they could not escape being known in a house of public resort.

WHEN they were settled in their lodgings, Alonso began to make enquiries for his friend, whom to his great joy he found was in Cadiz, and considered as one of the richest merchants in the city.

AFTER reasoning some time on the best way of making himself known to him, he wrote him the following lines :

“ IF Don Pacheco entertains the sentiments of his earlier years, and is desirous of relieving the distresses of a friend, he will call at -----, in the street of -----.” Having dis-

patched this note, he waited the result with anxious suspense.

DON Pacheco on receiving it, hastened immediately to the place of rendezvous.---What was his surprise, when he met with Alonso!---the tears started into his eyes with joy, in meeting with the friend and companion of his youth.

AFTER the first embraces and the mutual assurances of esteem and regard, Pacheco enquired for Donna Eugenia---Alonso confounded and surprized, hesitated what to say---Come, my friend, says Pacheco---lay aside your disguise---I am informed of your adventure, and you may trust to my discretion in whatever relates to your interest.

ALONSO

ALONSO finding it in vain to dissemble, introduced him to Eugenia, who confused at the knowledge Pacheco had learnt of her story, betrayed at once all the manliness she had acquired.

As soon as the compliments were over, Alonso impatient to know how his friend had come to be acquainted with his adventures, urged him to relate every particular he knew on that head.

WHEREUPON Pacheco told him, "That a ship having arrived at Cadiz, from -----, (the native place of Alonso) soon after he had absented himself, and the cargo being consigned to their house, he had not so soon forgot their old fellow-

ship, as not to enquire after him.---The captain, continued Pacheco, told me of your amour with this lady; that you had gone off together, and had so well concerted your disguise, that notwithstanding all the search that was made after you, they had not been able to trace the rout you had taken.---At first you were not suspected; and if it had not been for an old woman, who it seems was the confidante of your amour, they would have remained longer in their ignorance---Alvares was so enraged, and attributing the death of your mother”---“ The death of my mother! exclaimed Alonso---is she then dead?” “ What, did you not know it?” answered Pacheco. ---“ Alas! no; replied Alonso---but I pray you go on; hide nothing from me! ---What

---What said you of my father?" "Alvares, resumed Pacheco, attributing his loss (though I understand that your mother had been long in an ill state of health) to your flight, and the consequences it had occasioned, declared in the first transports of his anger, that he would never see you more." Here Alonso fetched a deep sigh, and Eugenia was so much affected, that Pacheco was unwilling to proceed. "I beseech of you, said Alonso, relate to us the consequences you hinted at; whatever they were, we must know them one day or other; and your friendship will at least be a balm to our afflictions:" after much entreaty, Pacheco went on.

“Don Pedro, furious and distracted on missing his lady, immediately fixed upon Don Gusman, a cadet in his regiment, as the author of this injury; for it seems Donna Eugenia was to have been married to this gentleman before the offers of Don Pedro were accepted of by her friends as a more advantageous match. Being confirmed in this opinion from the coolness and indifference of Donna Eugenia, and free from any other suspicions, he instantly went in quest of Don Gusman, and meeting with him in the street, drew on him, and in a peremptory voice bade him defend himself: Gusman fell; Don Pedro made his escape into Spain, and I understand is now a captain in the King’s guards.”

HERE

HERE astonishment, grief, terror, and dejection agitated alternately the minds of Alonso and Eugenia.

As soon as Pacheco observed the emotions began to subside, which this recital had occasioned, he renewed his protestations of amity and service.—Alonso embraced him : “ My friend, said he, it is but just that I should feel that misery which I have been the cause of to others.—O ill-fated passion ! (did he exclaim), what a train of evils hast thou occasioned ! the murder of Gusman ! the exile of Don Pedro ! and the misery of their families will be endless cause of remorse---and oh ! my unhappy parents ! my mother ! whose last moments I have hurried with sorrow to the grave ! my
father

father too ! whose indulgent kindness"---
Here tears expressed the anguish of his
heart ; Eugenia was entranced in woe,
and Pacheco in silence respected the sor-
rows of his friend.

C H A P.

CHAP. V.

WHEN they were once more a little composed, Pacheco, who was waiting for an opportunity to engage Alonso in conversation, express'd his surprise that he had been so long ignorant of the events he had related ; “ But I must confess, Madam, said he, (addressing himself to Donna Eugenia) this is no great sign of my gallantry ; for I have only to turn my eyes on your person to be convinced, that a man who enjoys the pleasure of your society, must be indifferent to ought besides ; but pray, Alonso, tell me how I came to have the happiness of meeting with you at Cadiz ?”

ALONSO

ALONSO then informed him of every circumstance that had befallen them since their departure from ----- . Pacheco could not avoid dwelling upon the strange rencounter with Don Pedro. " It has so much the air of romance, said he, that I should certainly have considered it in that light, if I had not been satisfied of the truth of it from your own mouth ; but to come more immediately to what now concerns you, continued Pacheco,--- the resolution you took to come here, I consider as the best mark you could have given me of your friendship ; and your confidence shall not be disappointed--- In the first place, your exigencies require some supply ; (and pressing his purse upon him) I beg of you, make use of this for the present---I am rich,
and

and will anticipate your wants ; in the mean time, let me entreat of you to accept of an apartment in my house, and consider it as your home---there can be only one objection to it, Madam, (addressing himself to Donna Eugenia) I am married ; and you might not chuse to expose yourself to the scrutinizing eyes of your own sex ; but even if your disguise should be discovered, I will venture to answer for the prudence and secrecy of my wife." Eugenia thanked him in the best terms she could think of, but begged to decline his offer ; in her present turn of mind, she wished to be retired---Alonso was likewise of the same sentiments, and he thought it would be running too great a risque of a discovery, as they could not avoid company, and
perhaps,

perhaps, falling in with some one or other who might know them. "I will press you no farther on this subject, said Pacheco; let us consider then in what else I can serve you---some plan or other must be fallen upon, for to return to----- . At present, you will allow it is quite out of the question." "Certainly; answered Alonso. I have entertained myself, continued he, with the thoughts of getting out through your means to the Spanish settlements in America.---- What think you of the scheme?" "I am afraid it is impossible, replied Pacheco; you must at least be first master of our language, in order to pass for a Spaniard; but that might be got the better of by application, before any ship goes to that part of the world.---I am apprehensive

apprehensive too for Donna Eugenia---I suppose you would not willingly leave her behind; and even if she were inclined to follow you, I foresee a great many difficulties; however, I will think of it, and consult with my friends."

Alonso was a good deal dispirited at the small prospect he had of success: "If, said he, our India ship went regularly as it used to do, I would go to that country; for I have several relations there in very respectable situations in life; and I am sure they would receive me with kindness, and that some road should be chalked out whereby I should make my way good."

"IN that case, said Pacheco, I have news to tell you, which perhaps will be
very

very agreeable: The last account I received from Portugal mentioned, that they were getting ready the Goa ship with great expedition, and that it was expected it would sail in the course of a few weeks." "I am rejoiced at what you tell me, replied Alonso.---Can you devise no method by which we can get secretly to Lisbon?" "There is an English frigate just now in our harbour, said Pacheco, that is bound for that port; if you chuse it, I will speak to the consul of that nation, with whom I am intimately acquainted, to procure you a passage." "By all means, returned Alonso with eagerness; I ask but this further instance of your friendship." "Then I will immediately set about it, answered

answered Pacheco ; in the morning we will meet again.

As soon as they were left alone, Alonso began to pass in review the various events of the day ; a silent tear would now and then steal down his cheeks, claiming the sympathy of Eugenia : she again catching the sorrowful state of his mind, would be so sunk in dejection and grief, as to require all his tenderness and love to alleviate. The night afforded them but little rest ; and Alonso impatient to know the success of the application of his friend, arose almost with the sun ; however, he had not been long up, before Pacheco arrived. “ I am come, said he, to give you joy ; but it is with an aching heart--- the man of war fails this evening, and

you will be welcome guests.---On leaving you I went immediately to the consul's, and told him my errand in the presence of the captain, who happened fortunately to be in company; I informed him that I came to ask his interest to procure a passage in the English frigate to Lisbon for two of my friends, Portuguese gentlemen, and brothers:---the captain was so obliging as to say, that I needed not have made use of the consul's interest; that my own was sufficient.---His name is J---, a man well known and respected in this part of the world, and who will treat you with great kindness." "Heavens! exclaimed Alonso, what should we have done without your friendship?—I am quite happy, my dear Pacheco, at what you tell me—I have now no doubt
of

of our getting to Lisbon in time for the India ship—This is all I desire ; for I have there a friend whose confidence I can rely upon, and whose assistance will be sufficient to put my plan into execution.” “ Since we must part so soon then, said Pacheco, I am glad at least to find you satisfied with your prospect ; but I must insist upon your accepting of this further supply—Come, I will have no excuse—you know, I run no risk—your father is rich, and this storm will one of these days blow over.” “ Well, be it so then, answered Alonso ; I find it is in vain to resist the delicacy of your friendship.” “ I must now leave you for the present, said Pacheco ; besides you have no time to lose—I will call on you in the afternoon, and accompany you on board—

Go and prepare your companion for the voyage—tell her she must put on her boldest looks.”

As soon as he was gone, Alonso returned to Eugenia, and informed her of all that had passed.—They then immediately began to set about getting ready ; and the hurry and agitation it occasioned, contributed to drown the recollection of what had been the cause of so much sorrow.

In the evening, Pacheco was punctual to his promise—he accompanied them on board—recommended them to the Captain, and with a tender and affectionate embrace, gave the last testimony of the value and sincerity of his friendship.

C H A P.

C H A P. VI.

ALONSO was now as impatient to arrive in his own country as he had formerly been to get out of it—and he was so agitated between the hope and fear of getting there in time, that every change of wind raised or depressed his spirits.—As for Eugenia, her only consolation was the love of Alonso; and her happiness and misery rose in proportion to his.—In the mean time, they had all the reason in the world to be satisfied with their treatment: both the Captain and the Officers behaved to them throughout the voyage with the humanity and politeness of gentlemen.—Eugenia how-

ever, thought it most prudent to decline their convivial pleasures, and never failed pleading the indisposition occasioned by that kind of travelling as an excuse for confining herself to her cabin.—But it was not so with Alonso—he entered freely into their mirth and good humour—he was perfectly master of the English language; and the frankness and openness of his manners—his good sense and an uncommon fund of knowledge for a young man at his time of life, contributed not a little to erase the unfavourable opinion they entertained of his countrymen.

ONE day that the conversation turned upon the good and bad qualities of different nations, Alonso was asked if assassination

nation was as common in Portugal as it is in general understood to be. He answered, "That it was not; that it began to lose ground, and that he believed it was owing to a greater depravity of manners."—This appeared to them so great a paradox that he was desired to explain himself. Alonso, the better to be understood, and to vindicate his countrymen from the reflections which this custom has occasioned, said, "it was necessary to enter into the out-lines of the history of Portugal."

"Most nations (continued he) trace their ancestors from remotest time.—Jubal the son of Japhet, they pretend was the first who peopled our country—however, without entering into disquisi-

tions which are only an additional mark of the vanity of mankind, I will confine myself merely to what may be ascertained with some degree of truth—The Greeks, Phœnicians, and Carthaginians, are the first people spoke of as the inhabitants of Portugal ; and the various antiquities which are to be met with, corroborate History in this particular :—after them came the Romans, who remained in possession of it till the decline of their empire ; when the Goths, Huns and Vandals made those famous revolutions in Europe.—Whatever then were the customs and manners to this period, they were such as were authorized by the most enlightened people at that time in the world.

“THE northern nations had not that continued possession of Portugal, which they had of their other conquests ; for they were interrupted by the Moors, who in their turn again were dispossessed of it ; so that their customs and manners had not time to take root ; and as a proof of it, duelling is to this day little practised among us, which is evidently a Gothic institution.

“IT follows then that the power which individuals assume among us to do justice to themselves, is derived from the first inhabitants of Portugal, the Greeks and Romans ; and has been handed down to their posterity, notwithstanding the different revolutions that have happened.

“IT

“IT is no doubt happier for a people to remit all their animosities into the hands of others, than to decide them themselves; but as neither morals nor legislation have yet arrived to that perfection, is it not absurd, as with you, for a man to put himself on the footing with one who has violated every principle of honor and equity, and not only expose his life, but often fall a victim to the villain who deserves to lose it?—These are the arguments which we use.—However, what has been the great cause of affluence among us, is jealousy;—but now the intercourse and communication is grown so great, that a man sees it would be an endless task to punish the infidelities of the other sex—We therefore begin to imitate the manners

ners of our neighbours, and are satisfied with making reprisals on each other— You have all been in Spain; and I am persuaded you must have observed with surprize the familiarity in which men and women live in general with each other, though they are still considered by those who have not been among them as the same jealous kind of people they were about an hundred years ago.—They copied from the French—the French taught the Italians, and we shall soon be equal to either.”

Most of the company were very well pleased with the conclusion of this argument, and were elated at the thoughts of solacing themselves with the black-eyed

eyed Lisbonians, without the apprehensions of a Stocada *.

ALONSO in the mean time retired to Eugenia, no ways desirous that she should be discovered on board an English man of war.

* The stab of a poniard.

CHAP.

C H A P. VII.

IT was now between four and five days since they had left Cadiz ; and as the wind had been mostly favorable, they were expecting every hour to discover the coast of Portugal.

ALONSO was walking on the deck, when the man at the mast-head, cried out, “ The rock of Lisbon.”—As they drew near, the first object of habitation that presented itself to their sight, was a small convent made of cork, on the summit of the rock.—The officers began to rally him on the score of religion, and asked if he could come off with as good
a grace

a grace on that subject, as he had on the other.

ALONSO, who was always ready to laugh at the follies and absurdities of mankind of whatever nation, entered freely into their mirth, and told the following story of the superstition of his countrymen :

“ Not long ago, in the town in which I was born, (one of the most considerable in the kingdom,) I was witness to one of the most ridiculous scenes my eyes ever beheld.—Several people had been bit by mad dogs, and the unhappy sufferers were sent about three or four leagues distant to an hermitage dedicated to *Nofra Senhora de Vitelina*, to offer

fer up their prayers for a cure ; as she had the fame of restoring her votaries who had fallen under that calamity, to health.—However, the poor wretches died in spite of the intercession of her Saintship : and as several others had been bit, it was suggested to one of the principal inhabitants, that there was in the family of a certain nobleman of high rank in Lisbon, a small iron, which had been made a present of many years ago by a Pope to one of his Ancestors, who was at that time ambassador at Rome. This iron had been consecrated by his Holiness, and was held as an infallible preventative to the bite of a mad dog, to those who were burnt with it on the fleshy part of their hand.—A messenger was thereupon immediately dispatched to
Lisbon

Lisbon for this iron, in behalf of the inhabitants of the town of——.

“ Its arrival was ushered in with the ringing of bells—a charcoal fire was brought out into the market-place ; and the whole inhabitants of town and country, from the bishop to the peasant, and from old age to infancy, went through this blistering ceremony, and retain the mark to this day.”—The officers could not help admiring this instance of the imbecility of human nature—But, *à propos*, says one of them, now that we are upon the subject of religion—what say you to the inquisition ? allow that that tribunal will reflect an eternal disgrace on your countrymen.—“ Say rather, on human kind, replied Alonso.—Remember

member the penal laws in your own country, and the reigns of your Henry the Eighth and Queen Mary—there have at least as many been burnt in England, as have suffered by the inquisition.

“IN short, the truth is, no nation has been exempt from the tyranny of superstition ; and the cloud which darkened England, and most parts of Europe, is not yet dispelled in Portugal.—Our witches and forcerers, continued Alonso, are now sent as impostors to the house of correction, and the inquisition is considered as an engine of state.”

“THE crown, then, said one of the gentlemen, will become more arbitrary ; and the people as they get out of the hands

of the priests, will fall under the rod of the minister."

"'Tis true, return'd Alonfo; and experience but too well justifies what you have advanced—few states have felt more severely the despotism of a minister than our own under the present government."—And yet, replied Capt. J——, the Count de Oyvras, (now Marquis de Pombal,) is considered as a great man in many parts of Europe.—“That is more than he is by his own countrymen, answered Alonfo; and however they may be behind hand with other nations in the arts and sciences, and commerce of living; they are not so blind, but they can easily discover when the interest of the state is sacrificed to the advantage of
of

of individuals, or suffers by a ruinous policy.

“WE are more burdened at this present time, continued he, than at any former period; for besides the established revenues of past reigns, the king now receives from a late tax the whole riches of his subjects once in ten years; our commerce languishes, and is almost ruined by the monopolizing companies of the Brazil trade; the laws are trampled upon, and even private property is not secure against his venality; the army is like a body without a soul; in short, he has exhibited such instances of rigour and cruelty, that he is the dread of the whole nation.—Every domestic confidence is destroyed by the emissaries he is known

to employ.—Perhaps, when his avarice is fatiated, and he is arrived at the summit of power, he may, like Augustus, do good to mankind ; but believe me, at present there is no order, no rank in society, but what detests him ; and surely if he was a great man, he would at least have some party to espouse his cause.—I mean not, however, to depreciate what there is valuable in his character.—The measures he has pursued with the church, were dictated by the soundest policy ; and it must be allowed, it required some exertion of power to go through with them.—They cannot fail promoting the increase of population ; and it is to be hoped, that future reigns, unfettered from the chains of the priests, will restore vigour to the laws.”

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“WE are much obliged to you, said one of the company, for giving us this epitome of your prime minister; but as one is naturally led to ask questions about a man, whose administration has been so much the subject of conversation in England—pray what family is he of?—how came he first into the cabinet?”

“As to his family, answered Alonso, his ancestors where what we call Homens Branco, (white men;) in short, his father was a provincial gentleman in low circumstances in the north of Portugal—he served during his younger years in the army, beginning, as was the custom of those days, with a musket—he arrived to the rank of lieutenant, but was afterwards dismissed the service as a bad offi-

cer.—He then came to Lisbon to solicit some place in the civil department ; and as he had received a liberal education, he found means to get employment in one of the public offices—he afterwards had the address to recommend himself to the people who were then in power, and was appointed successively as Envoy to the Courts of London, Paris, the Hague, and Vienna. At this last, he was married to a German of distinction ; by which means he strengthened his interest at home ; for the then Queen of Portugal was of the House of Austria, and he managed to get so much into the good graces of her Majesty, that at his return he had the art to supplant the Secretary, through whose protection I have understood he had been raised.”

By this time they had entered the Tagus—The weather was serene and mild, and tho' the evening began to approach, the sun had not got below the horizon—Every thing contributed to the grandeur and magnificence of the prospect—the breadth of the river—the stillness of the water—the sporting of fish, and the beauty and variety of the country struck their senses with admiration.—Eugenia was upon deck, and joined in the general applause.—At night they cast anchor in the harbour; and our adventurers, after many protestations of gratitude and regard, took advantage of the boat to go ashore.

C H A P. VIII.

AS soon as they were landed, Alonso went in search of a porter to take charge of their trunk, and proceeded to look out for a lodging in the most sequestered parts of the city. As he was perfectly acquainted with the geography of Lisbon, it was not long before he found an apartment suitable to their purpose.

It was now that Alonso stood in need of all his caution to keep himself unknown; for he had every thing to apprehend from the resentment of the family of Don Pedro, and the friends of the deceased Don Gusman, who would naturally consider him as the author of their misfortunes.

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THE first enquiries he made, were to know the forwardness of the Goa ship; and finding that it would soon be ready for its intended voyage, he addressed himself to Mr. H——, (an English gentleman belonging to the factory, a friend of his father's, with whom he was intimately acquainted,) for advice and assistance in the accomplishment of this scheme.

THE method Alonso took to procure an interview with this gentleman, was to request of him to call at his lodgings at a certain time; that he would excuse any further explanation, than that he would meet with one, to whose person and family he was no stranger, and who stood in need of his confidence and friendship.

MR.

MR. H—— did not fail to repair to the place of rendezvous at the appointed hour—How great was his surprise at the sight of Alonso!—He embraced him with kindness. “ But how is it possible, he exclaimed, that you dare shew yourself in this place ?” “ Mr. H——, answered Alonso, you are the only one I have entrusted with the secret; and it is on your kindness and friendship I depend, to extricate myself out of the difficulties I am in.” He then gave him a detail of the various scenes he had gone through, since he left ——, and of his resolution to go to the Indies.

MR. H——, after hesitating a little, said, he saw a better prospect for him in the Brazils; that the fleet to those parts

parts was ready to fail, and that he did not doubt but he would be able to get him into some employment in that part of the world, where a more extensive line would be opened to him than the Indies. Alonso overjoyed, closed in immediately with the proposal. The next day Mr. H—— returned, and informed him, he had procured him a place of between three and four hundred pounds a year, and that he must get himself ready to embark. It was then that Alonso formed a resolution which required all his efforts to execute. “Mr. H——, said he, I have but one favour more to ask of you, and which I know your influence can procure—use your interest to get me two years advance:—this request appears strange to you—excuse giving

giving my reasons for the present; but depend upon it, they will soon justify me in your own mind."

ALONSO delivered himself with such earnestness and expression, that Mr. H— declined urging any questions on this head, and promised his endeavours to serve him.—As he was a man of great weight from his extensive dealings, and of so amiable and worthy a character, that both natives and foreigners revered him, he did not find it very difficult to succeed in this farther application for his friend. The next morning he returned with the money. Alonso embraced him—"You shall now be a witness, said he, of the use I make of this sum;" and taking him by the hand, led him into the apartment of Eugenia.

"I pre-

“ I present to you, said Alonso, my benefactor and friend; one who considers our conduct rather as the effect of intemperate youth than premeditated vice.”—Eugenia confused at so unexpected a visit, was immediately covered with blushes. Alonso then, with a faltering voice, and the tears starting into his eyes, asked her if she was convinced of his love. The frame of Eugenia shook at the strangeness of the question, and the agitation she saw him in. She could hardly articulate an answer:—at last, with a trembling accent, she said, “ How could I ever doubt it?” “ Alas! resumed Alonso, we must part.” “ Part !” exclaimed Eugenia. “ But to meet again,” added Alonso. He then informed her of the obligations he had to Mr. H—, of

of the imprudence and impossibility there was of her accompanying him, and the necessity he was under of going immediately on board. “ Ah ! Alonzo, I see through the rest—and must it then be so ?—Oh, Heavens ! will you leave me ?—What ! torn from the object of my love—an outcast from my friends, abandoned by the world—will you thus forsake me ?” “ Oh, Eugenia ! returned Alonzo, rend not thus my heart—when time has calmed the agitation of your mind, you will approve of the measures I have taken for your happiness.—This sum is sufficient to maintain you in a retirement not only with decency and ease, but in safety from the taunts and the malice of the world ; and I swear to you by all I hold dear, by the constancy and

and ardour of my love, that I will preserve for you an inviolable attachment; and if in the future course of events our passion can be united with the sanction of the laws, I will embrace the opportunity with joy." A mournful silence ensued; and Eugenia, pale, dejected, and overcome with grief, cast a look of the softest languishment on Alonso. Mr. H—— felt for their distress; but as he could not but inwardly applaud the resolution of his friend, and apprehensive that it might give ground from the scene of tenderness, he enlarged upon the expediency and advantage of his going abroad.

"It is impossible, Madam, continued he, that you can remain long together
in

in this country without being found out; and if that should be the case, I need not describe the unhappy consequences of a discovery both to yourself and Alonso.---Don Pedro is in Spain, and Gusman in the grave, but you know they have left friends and relations behind them.---Suppose yourselves, however, free from private vengeance, yet the execution of the laws would involve you in ruin; and though the clemency of the king might mitigate their rigour, yet the greatest indulgence you could expect, would be imprisonment to yourself, and exile to Alonso.---Pardon me this freedom of expression; but an ill-timed delicacy might be the ruin of you both: Consider on the other hand, that Alonso's absence secures safety to you,
and

and promotes his own welfare ; and where could he go to so much advantage as to the Brazils ?—he is already in possession of an employment, from the emoluments of which, he is able to establish you in ease and independency.” “ Alas ! said Eugenia, and must Alonso toil two long years to promote my ease ? Is it on these conditions I am to live in independency ?—rather let him keep the money, and endeavour to find out some way that I may accompany him.”

“ MADAM, replied Mr. H——, I admire the force and the delicacy of your love ; but Alonso will have no need to slave in that country, to make himself amends for the disinterested mark he has given you of his attachment :—There

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are many avenues to wealth, and the abilities of Alonso leaves no room to doubt of his success."

"As to your accompanying him, it is quite out of the question—I could give you numberless reasons against it,—but believe me, you would be discovered; and the knowledge of the disguise would not only prove fatal to yourselves, but be attended with disagreeable consequences to me; and such has been the secrecy I have been obliged to make use of in this affair, that Alonso for the future is not to be known by his own name. Come, Madam, continued Mr. H——, take courage;—look forward with the hopes of happy days—your affairs are not so desperate

sperate as you imagine—remember Don Pedro is old, and you will have frequent opportunities of hearing from Alonso.”

EUGENIA was a little calmed by these representations ; and Alonso judging it the critical moment to put his resolution in force, a carriage was immediately got ready, and Mr. H—— accompanied them to the convent.

THE abbess was a woman of great sense and feeling ; and being accustomed to see distress and affliction take refuge within their walls, received them with sympathy and kindness.

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WHILST the two lovers were drowned in tears and embraces, Mr. H—— took her to one side, and informed her of such particulars as he thought necessary, respecting her new guest.—At last the mournful scene of separation took place; and Alonso silent and melancholy retired with his friend.

CHAP.

C H A P. IX.

ALONSO returned to his lodgings immersed in grief; and putting together the few necessaries he had left, proceeded immediately on board. Mr. H— accompanied him. “ My friend, (said he), how can I ever requite your goodness, and the service you have done me? Yet I beg of you, give me this further instance of your friendship—Acquaint my father with what you have seen; and tell him, that I beseech his forgiveness and love.”—“ I will, (answered Mr. H—); and I have no doubt of his returning affection.”—“ I pray you, too, (added Alonso) let Pacheco know

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this part of my history.”—Mr. H——
promised he would.—They then embraced, and parted.

As soon as he found himself alone, he retired to his cabin, and throwing himself on the bed, gave full vent to his afflictions.

THE first object that in idea presented itself to his mind, was the unhappy Eugenia—a prey to anguish—comfortless and repining among strangers!—Then starting up with phrenzy, cursed his fatal resolution, and wished himself ashore—Don Pedro, then, and the friends of Don Gusman, would occur to his remembrance, and moderate his fury—the idea, too, of an offended, indulgent

gent father, whose frowns he dreaded more than the vengeance of his enemies, would stare him in the face, and convince him it was best to be where he was.—At last, overpowered with the fatigue and agitation of his mind, sleep welcomed him to repose.

IN the mean time, the ship proceeded on her voyage with a prosperous gale ; and before he awoke, had lost sight of land.

WHAT first disturbed his rest, was something of a small size, and very hard, that he found himself lying upon—he perceived it was something in his coat pocket, which had got under him, and putting in his hand to take it out, he found it

was a purse——he was hardly yet awake, to know where he was——at last, recovering from his slumbers, and tracing the various scenes he had lately gone through, he was soon convinced that Mr. H—— was the author of this friendly piece of service.

As he had left all the money he had received for the support of Eugenia, without ever taking thought about himself, this generosity of his friend was very well timed.

AFTER taking some refreshment, he desired to know what passengers were on board; for as yet he had made no enquiries of that kind.——He was informed, that there was a Franciscan friar

friar—a Brazil merchant—an officer of the army, and a young civilian, who was returning from college to his own country. Alonso was very well pleased with this intelligence; for though he knew his countrymen, in general, had confined notions, yet the different professions of his fellow-passengers, he was persuaded, must have enabled them to acquire a greater share of learning, and knowledge of the world, than was to be met with in people of more ordinary stations in life.—He was resolved, therefore, to make one with them at dinner, and to endeavour to dissipate, in conversation, the gloom which hung upon his mind.

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As soon as the captain had introduced him to his other guests, the cordelier, whose countenance bespoke the most good humour, immediately began the conversation;—"Gentlemen (says he), I give you joy on the acquisition of our comrade. — Sir, (continues the priest), addressing himself to Alonso, I see you have been one of the votaries to love—Your air and manner bespeak it, and I don't doubt but you have touched the heart of many a fair lady—I see the adventures of this young gentleman will afford us great entertainment."—"My good father, (replied Alonso), if you will make us confidantes of yours, we shall need no other pastime to the end of the voyage." — The company
smiled,

smiled, and approved of the reply.—

“ Why, it is true, (resumed the friar) that I can speak, without boasting, of some atchievements that way ; and you know, major, (addressing himself to the officer) that the ladies don’t always confine their favours to smart cocked hats.”

—“ Gentlemen, (continued the priest) I am a Brazilian by birth, and belong to the convent of Capuchins, in the Rio de Janeiro—Our superior found it necessary to send somebody over to court, on the business of the Order, and I was pitched upon for that embassy.

“ ON my arrival at Lisbon, I presented myself, with letters of recommendation, to the archbishop of Evora, through whose interest with Paulo de Carvalho
(brother

(brother to the count de Oyeras,) I was given to understand I was to depend upon success.—The archbishop received me with a great deal of cordiality, and promised his good offices in favour of our Order.—In effect, he spoke to Paulo de Carvalho, and presented me to him.

“ His Excellency told me, that my business should be done.—However, I did not presume that his words would be immediately made good ; and laid my account with a good deal of attendance.—In the mean time, I congratulated myself on being known to the brother of the prime minister ; and as the reception I had met with entitled me to take frequent opportunities of
paying

paying my court to him, I did not find it difficult to commence an acquaintance with his favourite valet.—After our intimacy was pretty far advanced, he made me the confidante of his master's amours.—This was just what I aimed at.—I found likewise, to my great joy, that an old friar of our Order, was confessor to his mistress.—I therefore lost no time in getting acquainted with him; and as he thought himself a party concerned in the success, he espoused our cause with great warmth, and introduced me to Donna Mariana de Mendonia, the lady in question. I told my story with so good a grace, that what with that, and a small present I made her duenna, to bribe her mistress's favour, I got frequent interviews. In short, I played
my

my cards so well, that Donna Mariana chose to spend her retired hours in my company ; and I soon found her interest of more weight than the archbishop's ; for I not only succeeded in my own business, but have been the means of preferment to this gentleman."

" 'Tis true, (said the major) ; and if it had not been my good fortune to get accidentally acquainted with his reverence, at the minister's levee, I suppose I should still have been dancing attendance in the anti-chamber."—" Padre, (continues this gentleman) to judge of your success in your own country, from this instance of your address in Portugal, you must have acquired so many laurels, that I would willingly serve my noviciate

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ate under you, on our arrival.”—“ Sir, (answered the friar, pretending to assume a grave air), I find you have mistaken the purity of my intentions—don’t you see that my connections with Donna Mariana, were only to serve our holy Order, and our mother church, on which depends the salvation of mankind?—What! did you think me so carnally disposed, as to enjoy her with a vicious appetite?”—My dear father, (resumed the officer), I don’t dispute the purity of your motives; but I dare say you did think much of Paradise at the time.” The company laughed; and the jolly cordelier said smilingly, “ I see I have been serving a Samaritan and a sinner.”

C H A P. X.

DURING this conversation, the merchant and the young civilian had remained silent, testifying only by their gestures, the different effect it had on them.— Alonso desirous to be better acquainted with their characters, and to gather some information upon a subject he was persuaded the former was well conversant in; addressed himself to him in this manner. “ Sir, (said he) what an happiness it is for our country to be possessed of so vast a continent in America!— Our commerce and riches in that part of the world, not only secure us from contempt; but give us weight among

among other nations.—For we must allow that Portugal is in itself but a mere spot.”

“ Sir, replied the man of business, if it is from the trade and riches of the Brazils alone we derive consideration; we shall soon fall, I am afraid, in the opinion of mankind.” “ How so, asked Alonso?” — “ Why, (resumed the merchant) till the present minister’s time, the trade to the Brazils was open to all his majesty’s subjects; and the community at large derived advantage from it; but the establishment of the companies, with such exclusive privileges, has proved not only ruinous, by annihilating that spirit of enterprize and industry which results from the prospect of gain, and is the support of thousands, but confines the wealth acquired by the trade of that part of the

world to a few, which before was generally diffused throughout the kingdom.

“ I CAN assure you that our exports to the Brazils are so much decreased, that those countries which supplied us with their manufactures, must in time be insensibly affected by it. And as the returns are only in proportion to the exports; there must be a great diminution of the revenues of the king, and of the number and property of the inhabitants. This is so much the case, that my errand to Lisbon was, principally to represent the bad effects which have been felt from this ruinous policy; and to beg in behalf of the merchants and others, a restoration of the former freedom of trade. But I have not been so successful as
our

our friend the friar here. — The Count de Oyeras has no misters, and besides he is too fond of money.—Indeed I see'd his secretaries and servants, but I had not wherewithal to bribe the master; for I need not tell you the advantages which result to his excellency, from the establishment of the companies.— Unfortunately his politics and the interest of the state, are too often at variance; otherwise his private emoluments would not be so much attended to.”

“ OH! it would be endless, (said the civilian) to mention the instances of his avarice and selfishness; however, I cannot help taking notice of one, which falls more immediately under the cognizance of my profession, and which

probably you are unacquainted with. There is a perquisite of about two hundred milreis*, that belongs to the principal secretary of state, for every new law that is made. There have been more enacted during his administration, than from the time of the establishment of the Braganza family to the time of his coming into office; and it is plain it could be with no other view, than private interest: for there never was a period that the laws were so little attended to. And such is the despotism of the man, that though from the constitution of the monarchy, out-judges† ought to be appointed every three years, on which the property and security of

* Between fifty and sixty pounds.

† Juiz de Foras in Portugal.

the subject so much depend, yet he reserves the time in his own breast, and keeps the vacancies unfilled up; thereby rendering the most established law in our government, arbitrary and precarious; that the people may be accustomed to no other authority, but the will of the king or his minister."

"WHAT then! (says the major) I see that your profession holds him in the same degree of estimation as ours!—Well, there will be the greater jubilee when he makes his exit."

"GENTLEMEN, (said Alonso) this man whom you exclaim so much against, is however considered in Europe, as one of the greatest ministers of the age; for

my own part, I am so far from that opinion, that I cannot help joining with the general voice of my countrymen. Foreigners do not consider the uncontrouled power he exercises; and that the inactivity and inattention of the king allows him to do just what he pleases.—Place any man but of moderate abilities, and a tolerable share of courage at the helm, with the authority he enjoys, and I am confident, that was he but a friend to mankind, he would not only acquire a greater name, but would be a blessing to his country.”

THIS proposition was readily assented to; “ But since, (says the merchant) that we have reasoned so freely upon his bad qualities, it is but just to remark instan-

ces wherein his policy has proved beneficial. It must be granted then, that his conduct with regard to the English has been masterly; and that instead of eight hundred thousand pounds, formerly the balance of trade in their favour with us, it is now reduced to one fourth of that sum, so that we receive the difference in the manufactures of other nations, at a much easier rate, than from them."

"It is only time, (answered Alonso) that can determine the advantages of this policy, and perhaps the period is not far off. According to the treaties between the two kingdoms, England has an exclusive right to the furnishing us with their manufactures; and in consequence of this preference,

they are bound to protect us from the attempts of our enemies. Now the breach of these treaties has raised the resentment of the English, and perhaps, when our enemies think fit to be troublesome, they may consider it as not worth their while to grant us assistance.— Nay, they may even argue that they will receive greater advantages by Portugal falling into the hands of the Spaniards;— that conniving at this addition of strength, would detach them from their connections with France, and induce them to make a more beneficial treaty of commerce with them, than they could do with us.---However I will readily allow, that if England considers it as her interest to support our independency, notwithstanding these infractions, then

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our minister has acted the part of a good politician."

DURING these profound arguments the friar kept nodding from his chair, and played time with his nose to the discourse of our reasoners.---- At last, silence taking place, he suddenly cried out, Gentlemen, a truce for one moment.---- I challenge any of you to a party at backgammon.---- The officer said he was his man ; so the tables were called for.

C H A P.

C H A P. XI.

ALONSO no sooner found himself at liberty, than he retired to his cabin, in order to indulge that melancholy from which he had so lately emerged.--- The transition was so quick, that it seemed as if his mind had borne with impatience any other sentiment. However he was no longer agitated with that violence of passion which had almost subdued his reason, and brought him to the brink of despair. Eugenia was the first object of contemplation, and a sudden tear would accompany the soft emotions of his soul, at the remembrance of one whom he held so dear. Then the ills
their

their amour had been the cause of, would present themselves to view. These again would make way for more pleasing sensations—the approbation of his conduct in placing her in ease and safety in retirement, and the distant but pleasing hopes of events favourable to their love. The resentment and anger too of his father, he flattered himself, would be appeased by the representations of his friend, and contribute to reconcile him to the situation he was in. With these sentiments he went to bed, and did not awake till the next day, that the captain came and told him, That they were sailing with God and a fair wind; and if he took such long doses, they would be at the end of their voyage before he got out of his cot. Come, here are the
other

other gentlemen, continued he, who have been enquiring after you since day-break.

ALONSO, who found himself quite refreshed, and in better spirits than he had been for some time past, hastened on his cloaths, and immediately joined the company.—“Cavalheiro, (says the friar) I have beaten these four gentlemen all round, and I only want you to add to my triumph—but we will not begin yet.—Come, captain, let us have something to eat;—Hold, I will treat you this morning myself.—Boy, bring me that round small box that is in my cabin.—Here, gentlemen, is a present of Donna Mariana’s--cakes and sweet-meats made with her own hands.---Come, fall to.”

to."---The company did not need much pressing ; and the officer desired to drink to the health of his patroness---" Father, (continued he) when I return to Portugal, I hope you will make me your ambassador to Donna Mariana, that I may have an opportunity of acknowledging the favours, which, through your means, I owe her."---" Ah ! Lorenzo, (he exclaimed) if thy misfortunes had not happened quite so soon"---" Lorenzo ! (answered the friar) who is Lorenzo ? What has he to do in the present case ?" ---" A young man, a brother officer of mine, (replied the major) who was lately banished to Angola, which you know is the most wretched and unhealthy settlement we possess on the coast of Africa."---" And how came he to be banished ?"

nished?" (asked the priest) "For the same reason (answered the major) that you or any of us would have been--- for speaking too freely of the minister--- Some injustice had been done him in the regiment, and he gave his tongue too much liberty in accusing his excellency as the author of it.---All the interest that could be made in his favour, was not sufficient to appease the marquis's *courroux*; and I was lamenting that his disgrace happened before I was acquainted with you, that I might have saved him from destruction."---"I am sorry for it; (returned the friar) I dare say I should have been of use to him."

"I doubt of that, father, (said the man of business,) our minister has been always found implacable in these cases,

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and he would sooner pardon an indignity to the king than disrespect to himself; for you know his majesty leaves his honour to the arbitration of his excellency; and a happy use he makes of it!" "True, (replied the officer,) and for my part, I can never reflect but with indignation, that so honest a man as the king should suffer himself to be treated with so much contempt;---for what can more debase majesty than to be shut up in a cage whenever he gives audience, and receive the petitions of his subjects, only from third hands?--Would it not be more noble and more manly in a prince to expose himself to the rancour of his people, and even meet death at their hands, than live on such vilifying conditions?---But the truth is, his majesty

jefty has no need of such apprehensions, and it is only to encrease his power over him, by creating in him such a jealousy and distrust of his subjects——
 Gentlemen, (continued the major) I was upon guard in the palace of Villa Viciosa, the day the king was attacked by that madman, which has occasioned so much noise; and I will relate to you all the circumstances of that affair; for it is not necessary to mention that it was this adventure which gave the marquis a pretext for persuading the king to submit to the indignity that has been mentioned.

THIS madman, then, (for though he was not a lunatic, he deserves no other name) after serving the greatest part
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of his life as a foldier in the artillery, was discharged as unfit for fervice. The king remained in arrears to him fix years pay; and, besides, he claimed the value of a mule, which had been preffed from him during the war, for his majesty's fervice.—He fet forth his claims in a petition to the king, which he prefented himfelf.—After waiting fome days in fruitless attendance, he prefented another, which the king likewise received, and gave to one of his fuit.---However, as this met with the fame fate as the firft, he determined to prefent a third; but the king recollecting the man's face again, pushed it on one fide, and faid to him, “ Fellow, why do you plague me thus with your petitions ?”---The old foldier was obliged to retire, but fullen

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and thoughtful, thus he reasoned with himself.---“ I have served the king the best part of my life --- I am now old, and he owes me money---yet he not only refuses to pay me, but treats me with contempt---I will have satisfaction.”

ACCORDINGLY he provided himself with a long stout stick, with which he was resolved to give his majesty a drubbing the next morning as he went a-hunting;---he therefore planted himself, very composedly, at the park gate; and just as his majesty passed through, he fell most heartily upon him; and if he had not been immediately seized, he would probably have brought the king to the ground.---The attendants in their fury would instantly have dispatched him,

him, if they had not been prevented by the king, who called out to them to spare his life. He was ordered into strict custody ; and, soon after, all his friends and relations, and those with whom he had any intimacy or acquaintance, were sent to prison, in order to find out who it was that had instigated him to so rash an action;---but all their enquiries proved fruitless, and it did not appear that he had any accomplices, but had acted merely from a principle of taking satisfaction for the injustice the king had done him.---What became of the poor fellow afterwards, God knows ;---but the army owe him, at least, this piece of service, that sometime afterward their arrears were paid.”

C H A P. XII.

THE Company thanked the major for his anecdote ; and as they had by this time finished their repast, and the sweet-meats and cordials (Portugueze fare) being removed, the friar, who did not like long arguments, took the advantage of a pause, and called for the tables.—“ Now Cavalheiro (says he, addressing himself to Alonso) you are going to encounter the first player in the Brazils ; so placing the men, and rattling the dice, they immediately set to.—The friar lost the two or three first hits in tolerable good humour ; and would only now and then exclaim at the lucky throws
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of his adversary : but Alonso's advantage continuing, he began to grow uneasy.—

At last not being able to get a single game, he very calmly put the box upon the table, and looking stedfastly on Alonso, “ Pray, Sir, (says he) where did you learn to play at back-gammon ? ” — “ In England, (replied Alonso.) ” ---- “ In England ! (cried the friar) What among heretics ! — Among people under the dominion of the devil ! ---- Truly I am not surpris'd at your beating me. But pray, what carried you to that country ? I hope you was not long in it.”

“ Several years, (answered Alonso.) I was educated there.” ---- “ What ! you educated there ! the young man is lost ! ruined ! undone ! Your parents surely could never be good Catholics. --- Well,

what a plentiful harvest Satan will have to reap in England!----Yet these English were formerly a nation of saints. Alas! what a pity it is that the good St. Mary, that queen of blessed memory, was succeeded by such a woman as Elizabeth!----What martyrs there must have fallen in that reign!" "O truly a great many martyrs (replied Alonso); do you know Father, that one Rapin, whom they consider as their best historian, says, that in the reign you allude to, out of nine thousand four hundred priests, who were at that time Roman Catholics, only one hundred and eighty of them chose to quit their benefices, to preserve their religion? All the rest turned Protestants. My dear father, (continued Alonso) these English are notwithstanding

ing a good sort of people. "What! and have neither the mass nor the cross among them! A very good kind of people truly! but does not our holy father the pope send missionaries to convert them? Methinks I could suffer martyrdom in so good a cause." "O yes, (replied Alonso), and be crucified in their bagnios."—"In their bagnios! (returned the friar), pray how is that?" "A very pleasant kind of martyrdom, (said Alonso) and what the disciples of St. Francis are very fond of. Imagine yourself in a handsome room, elegantly furnished—wax lights—a good supper—fine wine, and a Donna Mariana to partake of it.—Now father, say ingenuously would you think much of paradise in the agonies of crucifixion?"—The company laughed,

and the padre shaking his head—"I see (said he) that he is a lost sheep."

"RAILLERY however aside, (says the civilian) I am glad to find myself with one who has been so long in a country that makes such a distinguished figure at present in the world.—From this little anecdote you have mentioned of their bagnios, I suppose they are not that brutal kind of people they are represented."—"By no means, (replied Alonso), their manners to be sure are not so gentle or officious as ours, but it must be allowed they are more honest and sincere.—I have heard it said indeed, by foreigners, who have been long among them, that since the last peace, they have been making great strides towards the

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the politesse of their neighbours.—However there are sensible people who condemn that outward grimace, which prevails at present through the lower ranks. They say these manners are unnatural to their constitution, and look upon it as a sign that they are ripe for a more arbitrary government.”—It is certain, (replied the civilian) that despotism and exterior politeness originated together with the Romans.”—“ For my own part, (said Alonso) if I might venture an opinion on this subject, I should be inclined to compare the English liberties to those of the Romans under Augustus ; and I am persuaded that without some violent concussion in the state, to give play to the passions, and thereby restore the constitution to its first principles, the
boasted

boasted freedom of England will soon be on a level with other states." "And yet, said the lawyer, to judge from the accounts we have in the gazettes, of what passes in that country, it would seem as if the king sometimes had hardly the power to keep himself upon the throne."

"THESE clamours which you hear of, are nothing at all (returned Alonso); and the king knows too well his own strength, to be apprehensive about them. In short, their parliament is so venal, that a majority is always devoted to the crown; and though it does not seem to be the intentions of the present monarch, to place himself above the laws, yet his ministers will sometimes act as if it was. On these occasions, the

the people will be noisy ; but what avails it ? Their representatives are the first to betray them.—You will naturally say—Why don't the electors chuse honefter men ? and that the whole mass of people must be corrupt. I will allow, that there is something in this ; but then you must know, that there are a great many boroughs at present in England, that are fallen to such poverty and wretchedness, as to be inhabited only by miserable fishermen ; at the same time, that many of the most opulent and flourishing towns in the kingdom have not that privilege of representation.—It therefore cannot be justly said, that the morals of the people are in general corrupt, as long as this inconvenience exists ; but if it is not remedied

died, and there should come a prince inclined to exercise the authority over his subjects which he found himself possessed of, they would then either become violent, outrageous, and reform the constitution, or be forced to submit to the yoke." "The presentiment of the loss of their liberties, (continued Alonso) ought to fill the mind of every Englishman with horror—They ought to contrast opulence, independency and happiness—the appendages of freedom—to despotism—the uncertainty of property, and all that train of evils which accompany arbitrary power. This picture they ought constantly to have in view, in order to awaken their attention to their interest, prosperity, and welfare."

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“ I MUST confess (says the civilian,) that you appear to me an extraordinary instance of the force of education.— Why, you speak with the enthusiasm of a Roman, and have quite forgot that you are only a Portuguese.”

CHAP.

C H A P. XIII.

IT would be endless to recount the various converse and pastime during the remainder of the voyage; suffice it to say, that Alonso's travels and philosophy were a great fund of entertainment to his fellow-passengers.

THE friar, indeed, would sometimes think that his tenets were not quite orthodox; and he was confirmed in this opinion, from an argument that one day very accidentally arose, in speaking of the former happiness of the world. Alonso said he was of opinion, that there was more general happiness in our days,

days, than in those of any other period. The civilian himself seemed startled at this proposition; and though he generally coincided with him in most points, he differed from him in this.—“ Pray let us hear (said he) how you make out this doctrine.” “ I am persuaded (resumed Alonso) that this way of thinking is greatly owing to an ignorance of the state of society, in the different ages of the world; let us, therefore, take a cursory view of antient and modern times, and then determine how far the golden days of antiquity are preferable to our own.

THE Assyrians, Medes, and Persians, are the first large assemblages of mankind, who present themselves to our view.—The Egyptians, too, were famed
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in those days for their power, riches, and learning; yet these people were all comprehended in part of Asia, and a small part of Africa; and as the governments of the East, have, in all ages, been founded on extreme despotism, it will be hard for us to allow any tolerable share of happiness to men who were continually subject to the tyranny and caprice of their governors. As to the Grecians, who are the next in progression, though their arts and learning are accounted, to this day, the noblest monuments of human wisdom; yet the possessions of these venerable ancients, were, excepting some few colonies, confined to part of Turkey in Europe, the islands of the Morea and Archipelago, and a small skirt on the coast of Asia:

Asia : and when once Alexander came to usurp the sovereign command over them, and conquered the Persians, the former had forfeited all pretensions to the virtues of their ancestors ; and the latter continued to be governed by the same arbitrary principles, to which they had ever been accustomed.—The Romans and Carthaginians were then the only people who enjoyed freedom ; but they were at that time too inconsiderable to be ranked among the large societies of men.—These two republics increased in power and rivalry, till the latter was entirely overthrown ; and during the interval of contention, while the Carthaginians were in the zenith of their glory, their government was so ar-

bitrary and severe to the people under their subjection, that the history of their power is not that of the happiness of men *. It was not so, indeed, with the Romans.—In their advancement to greatness, they were famed for their simplicity, integrity, magnanimity, and disinterestedness; and governed with mildness and justice their extensive conquests. In the end, they became the arbiters of kings and states; and the energy of their government diffused happiness, for a time, to the universe.

* The Carthaginians, in order to render the Sardinians and Corsicans more dependent, prohibited them, on pain of death, from planting, sowing, or any thing of the like kind. Livy, Book VII.

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It is, then, under the Romans, that we must fix upon some period, as the happiest of antiquity. Suppose that of Augustus. It is true, that at that time, the republic had assumed a more arbitrary appearance; however, the Romans still retained a great love of freedom, and enjoyed it both in their manners, and in their government; and, as it was at that time they were at the height of their power, none other, I think, can be so properly pitched upon. —The Romans were then in possession of Italy, Spain, France, part of Germany, Britain, Turkey in Europe, a considerable part of Asia, Egypt, and the most fertile parts of Africa, and all

the islands of the Mediterranean, Morea, and Archipelago.—A vast empire !

“ LET us now compare those days with our own ; for to the decline of the empire and its total overthrow by the northern nations, none other can come in question.

“ IN the first place then, we will allow, that their persons and properties, at the time we are speaking of, were secured by the vigour of the laws, but those of the conquered nations were held in continual uncertainty ; and how small a portion the Romans bore to the people whom they had subdued, is easily seen by comparing the limits of Italy
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(allowing the utmost latitudes not only to its inhabitants, but to those of their municipal towns) to their extensive conquests.---And it will be readily granted, that many governors of provinces were guilty of the most flagrant injustice, and by the treasures they had amassed, screened themselves from the punishment they deserved.

“ As to their manners at this period, they were sociable and easy—that rough but honest fierceness had gradually worn off from a continual intercourse with foreign nations ; from a series of prosperity, which had introduced ease, affluence and luxury, and from the accu-

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culated learning, arts, and sciences of the Grecians and other nations.

“Now, with respect to our own times
---The present civilized state of the world comprehends Europe in a more exalted state than ever was known. It is true, that that part of the Roman empire in Asia and Africa was happier, and more flourishing than it is at present ;---but so great a part of Europe which was at that time immersed in barbarism, and where government, arts, and sciences, now flourish, fully compensate for.

“BESIDES, consider the present state of America ;---the English colonies alone,

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on that continent, afford a prospect of rivalling the greatest empires of antiquity.

“ At what period of time shall we find such numerous bodies of men, as at present, governed independently by their own laws? and though the governments that actually exist, do not in general tend to produce those great examples of patriotism and heroic virtue as are to be met with among the Greeks and Romans, I will venture to affirm, that there is a more extensive philanthropy, and an easier commerce among mankind than ever was known.”

HERE Alonso stopt.---The friar began to yawn.---“ Sir, (says he), to be sure

you have made all you have been saying very plain; but it is all Hebrew to me.---I thought it was as I said; ---Your English education has made you an heretic---You reason too much to be a good catholick."——The others seemed inclined to be of his way of thinking; and even the civilian, though he could not confute what Alonso had advanced, thought it the safest doctrine to continue in the old track---that the world is growing worse and worse.

C H A P. XIV.

IT was now about fix weeks since they had left Lisbon; and as the constancy of the trade winds enabled them to determine, with tolerable precision, the time of their arrival, they expected every hour to come within sight of land. In a day or two afterwards, they discovered the coast of Brazils, and were not long before they cast anchor in the Rio de Janiero.

ALONSO had so conducted himself during the voyage, that he had entirely gained the affections of his fellow passengers;

sengers; for though he was greatly their superior in point of abilities, yet he was far from that arrogance and presumption so common to his countrymen; and as they were most of them natives of that part of the world, they did not fail to shew him the kindest instances of their service.

THE first enquiries he made, as soon as he got a-shore, were to know if any conveyance offered of writing to Europe; for neither absence nor the distance he found himself from Eugenia, had lessened his attachment and love.--- To his great joy he found there was a ship almost ready to sail; he, therefore, did not let pass that opportunity
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of informing her of his arrival, and inclosed it in a letter to his friend Mr. H——. As soon as he found himself a little settled, he began to cultivate, thro' the means of his cabin friends, a more general acquaintance. He found the inhabitants of that part of the world more hospitable than those of his own country; and as they were more affluent and rich, they could, with the greater ease, exercise their beneficence. The count de B—— was at that time captain-general—a man so universally beloved, that the people, in general, would have sacrificed their lives to serve him; for he was not like the common run of governors in that part of the world.—He respected the interests of his sovereign;

reign;—but, as an individual, he was just, humane, liberal, of great affability, and was satisfied with the emoluments annexed to his rank, without aiming at acquisitions which must have been disgraced with tyranny and extortion.

ALONSO was so fortunate as to get into the good graces of the count de B——; and as he found himself continually gaining ground, he did not doubt but that his excellency would, in time, give him such an instance of his protection and patronage, as would be greatly to his interest and advantage.—It was not long before his expectations were gratified.—He was appointed to an employment

ployment in the diamond mines, which promised the most flattering prospect; for, independant of a large addition of salary, there occurred such opportunities of gain, that those who had the address to profit by them, never failed to acquire a great and rapid fortune.—It is true, that this method of jumping, at once, into affluence, will not stand the test of much casuistry; however, custom has rendered it so far justifiable, that it is taken for granted, that those who meet with such large temptations, will try every expedient to elude the vigilance of the laws, established for the security of that valuable branch of the revenue.

ALONSO

ALONSO congratulated himself on the career he had got into, and already began to tower with the hopes of his future grandeur:—but what contributed much to moderate his joy, was, that he had not received any accounts of Eugenia, or his friend Mr. ———, though he had been much longer in the country than was necessary for that purpose—he began therefore to doubt of the safety of the common method of conveyance, and was apprehensive that his letters might have fallen a sacrifice to the suspicions of the minister.—What confirmed him in this idea was, that the ship he wrote by had arrived in safety in Lisbon;—however, it was some consolation to him, supposing that
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to be the case, that he had not exposed himself to his resentment or ill will.

IN the mean time he determined to proceed more cautiously for the future; and, accordingly, he procured the confidence of a gentleman who was going to Portugal, and who promised to deliver his letters with his own hands.—In these he acquainted Eugenia and his friend, of every circumstance that had befallen him of any note since his arrival, and pointed out to them the method it was necessary they should observe, to secure him the conveyance of their answers.

As soon as he had got every thing
ready

ready for the long journey he was going to undertake, he set out for the mines.—He had not less than twelve hundred miles to travel; and that in a country where the rude hand of Nature is almost unimproved.—However, his constitution was proof against all the hardships and inconveniencies he met with,—and he had the pleasure to find himself at his journey's end without any accident.

The END of the FIRST VOLUME.

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